

Abstract

The present invention describes a method for separating sterols from neutral substances comprising the sterols. The method generally starts with extracting a hydrocarbon fraction from neutral substances. The hydrocarbon fraction may be optionally washed with water. The neutral substances are separated from the hydrocarbon. The hydrocarbon fraction or the neutral substances are subjected to evaporation fractionating to obtain a sterol-rich fraction. The sterol-rich fraction is dissolved in a solvent, and the sterols are crystallized from the solvent. The obtained sterol crystals are separated from the solvent.